

IN HONOR OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN NORTH CAROLINA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 16, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the brave men and women who faithfully serve in North Carolina's 8th District as law enforcement officers.

In 1962, Congress established National Police Week to pay our respects to officers who died in the line of duty, as well as those who continue to serve. This is a week for all of us to join together and show support for these heroes in blue.

It is because of their tireless—and sometimes unnoticed—work that we remain safe in our homes. Their commitment to our community deserves our gratitude and appreciation, and their service is an example to all of us.

As Representative of North Carolina's eighth district, I'm committed to making sure our law enforcement officers have the tools needed to do their jobs. Just last week, the House passed five bills supporting our law enforcement community, including legislation to protect our police forces' access to bulletproof vests and enable them to carry their firearms when off-duty.

Mr. Speaker, these brave men and women continue to serve our communities year after year, and it's important to offer them our sincere gratitude. I ask my fellow Americans, to join me in reflecting on the sacrifice of our fallen officers, honoring those who are currently serving, and saying a big thank you to these heroes and their families.

THE AGENT ORANGE RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2016

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 16, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in effort to heal the post-conflict, human cost of war by caring for the children of our Vietnam veterans living with Spina Bifida resulting from Agent Orange exposure.

Spina Bifida, which literally means "split spine," is a condition in which a baby's spinal column fails to close properly during pregnancy. Typically, an adult with Spina Bifida may suffer from nerve damage, paralysis, and difficulty completing ordinary, day-to-day tasks, and generally, surgery must be performed within 24 hours of the child's birth to minimize the risk of further damage due to infection, and to preserve any remaining function in the spinal cord. In many cases, those suffering from Spina Bifida require costly surgeries and extensive medical care because of potential paralysis resulting from damage to the spinal cord. Thankfully, due to medical advances, most children born with Spina Bifida live well into their adulthood.

The Department of Veterans Affairs presumes a link between Vietnam-era veterans exposed to herbicides such as Agent Orange, and the incidences of Spina Bifida in their biological children.

The Agent Orange Benefits Act (Public Law 104-204), which became law in 1996, established a benefits package for the children of Vietnam veterans as a result of exposure of one or both biological parents to herbicide during active duty in the Vietnam war. These benefits include lifetime health care services for Spina Bifida and any disability associated with Spina Bifida, a monthly monetary allowance, and VA vocational training and rehabilitation service. The Act authorized the VA to provide such benefits effective October 1, 1997, but not earlier than the date of the VA's receipt of an individual's claim for benefits. Regrettably however, this legislation did not tackle the already incurred medical costs directly correlated to Spina Bifida.

According to the VA, there are approximately 1,200 affected children of Vietnam-era veterans receiving compensation since enactment of the Agent Orange Benefits Act. While these children became eligible for benefits in 1997, these veterans and their families have been left with the cost of years of medical care necessary to treat a child's condition since birth that was directly attributable to the veteran's wartime service.

The Agent Orange Reconciliation Act of 2016 would make the benefits for children of Vietnam-era veterans born with and currently suffering from Spina Bifida effective beginning at birth. As a result, this bill would provide a one-time retroactive monetary payment to the families enduring this condition to compensate for treatment of the symptoms of Spina Bifida from birth until enactment of the Agent Orange Benefits Act.

Let us provide the benefits for which we are responsible with this important legislation. Our provision of benefits to the children of Vietnam veterans living suffering from Spina Bifida from their birth not only honors the service of these veterans but also recognizes the harmful and continued effects of Agent Orange Exposure in later generations.

FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW YORK OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES HONOREE LIST

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 16, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to nineteen exemplary young men and women who have chosen to serve their country in various branches of the Armed Forces of the United States. These courageous individuals will be dedicating themselves to the cause of protecting the security and welfare of their fellow citizens. I admire their strong sense of patriotism, as well as their desire to protect our values and make certain we remain the great nation we are today. Each of the following students has my deepest appreciation for their service to this country. These students will be honored by Our Community Salutes, a local community group, on May 19, 2016 at the Our Community Salutes Brookhaven Town Enlistee Recognition Ceremony at Sunset Harbor in Patchogue, NY.

Of the nineteen from my district, three have joined the U.S. Army; their names are the following: Jacob Bernocco of Patchogue-Medford

High School; Janneth Guambana of Center Moriches High School; and Alexis Wallace of William Floyd High School.

Twelve have joined the U.S. Marines; their names are the following: Scott Amato of William Floyd High School; Deny Amaya of Center Moriches High School; Tyler Baudier of William Floyd High School; Alexander Cruz-Perez of William Floyd High School; Dion Kennedy of Center Moriches High School; William Ladolcetta of William Floyd High School; Jonas Marrello of Center Moriches High School; Camron McLeod of Longwood High School; Michael Murphy of William Floyd High School; Shaun O'Mara of Patchogue-Medford High School; Caleb Richters of Longwood High School; and Terrell Sinclair of William Floyd High School.

One has joined the U.S. Navy; his name is Adam Erkan of Bellport High School.

One has joined the U.S. Air Force; her name is Jilian McCabe of Patchogue-Medford High School.

One has joined the U.S. Coast Guard; his name is James Giarraputo of Center Moriches High School.

One has joined the Air National Guard; his name is Jakob Klaus of Center Moriches High School.

Mr. Speaker, we should be extremely grateful to each and every one of these nineteen individuals. Their call to duty cannot be underscored or admired enough and it is my distinct honor and privilege to represent them and their families in the First Congressional District of New York. I wish them the best of luck in their respective branches and in all of their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 16, 2016

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on May 12, 2016, and May 13, 2016. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Roll no. 186—H.R. 5046—On agreeing to the Lynch amendment: YEA.

Roll no. 187—H.R. 5046—On passage: YEA.

Roll no. 188—H.R. 1818—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended: YEA.

Roll no. 189—H.R. 4586—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended: YEA.

Friday, May 13, 2016

Roll no. 190—H. Res. 725—On ordering the previous question: NAY.

Roll no. 191—H. Res. 725—On agreeing to the resolution: NAY.

Roll no. 192—On approving the Journal: YEA.

Roll no. 193—S. 524—On passage: YEA.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference.

This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 18

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider S. 2816, to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program, S. 2795, to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy, S. 1479, to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to modify provisions relating to grants, S. 2446, to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to encourage recovery and beneficial use of coal combustion residuals and establish requirements for the proper management and disposal of coal combustion residuals that are protective of human health and the environment, S. 921, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a non-regulatory program to build on and help coordinate funding for restoration and protection efforts of the 4-State Delaware River Basin region, H.R. 3114, to provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities, S. 2754, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 300 Fannin Street in Shreveport, Louisiana, as the "Tom Stagg Federal Building and United States Courthouse", the nominations of Thomas A. Burke, and Jane Toshiko Nishida, both of Maryland, both to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and General Services Administration resolutions.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the Telephone Consumer Protection Act at 25, focusing on effects on consumers and business.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine Every Student Succeeds Act implementation, focusing on perspectives from education stakeholders.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine assessing the security of critical infrastructure, focusing on threat, vulnerabilities, and solutions.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Donald Karl Schott, of Wisconsin, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Paul Lewis Abrams, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Stephanie A. Finley, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, Claude J. Kelly III, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and Winfield D. Ong, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine small business and the Affordable Care Act.

SR-428A

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 2785, to protect Native children and promote public safety in Indian country, S. 2916, to provide that the pueblo of Santa Clara may lease for 99 years certain restricted land, and S. 2920, to amend the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities.

SD-628

3 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism

To hold hearings to examine ransomware, focusing on understanding the threat and exploring solutions.

SD-226

MAY 19

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment

To hold hearings to examine improving communities' and businesses' access to capital and economic development.

SD-538

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the international Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on November 3, 2001, and signed by the United States on November 1, 2002 (the "Treaty") (Treaty Doc.110-19), and the Convention on the Law Applicable to Certain Rights in Respect of Securities Held with an Intermediary (the "Convention"), done at The Hague on July 5, 2006, and signed by the United States on that same day (Treaty Doc.112-06).

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 247, to amend section 349 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to deem specified activities in support of terrorism as renunciation of United States nationality, S. 356, to improve the provisions relating to the privacy of electronic communications, and the nominations of Ronald G. Russell, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, Inga S. Bernstein, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Stephanie A. Gallagher, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and

Suzanne Mitchell, and Scott L. Palk, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

SD-226

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Farm Credit System, focusing on the outlook of the current economic climate.

SR-328A

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017", and an original bill entitled, "Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2017".

SD-106

11:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider an original bill extending certain privileges and immunities to the Gulf Cooperation Council, and a routine list in the Foreign Service.

S-116

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's 2017-2022 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest

To hold hearings to examine the Administration's immigration policies.

SD-226

MAY 24

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine understanding the role of sanctions under the Iran Deal.

SD-538

MAY 25

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy

To hold hearings to examine international cybersecurity strategy, focusing on deterring foreign threats and building global cyber norms.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine understanding the role of sanctions under the Iran Deal, focusing on Administration perspectives.

SD-538

MAY 26

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine a review of the United States livestock and poultry sectors, focusing on marketplace opportunities and challenges.

SH-216

JUNE 8

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Military Construction
and Veterans Affairs, and Related
Agencies

To hold hearings to examine a review of
the Department of Veterans Affairs'

electronic health record (VistA),
progress toward interoperability with
the Department of Defense's electronic
health record, and plans for the future.
SD-124